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CYNTHIA D. BANKS
Director

**COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

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"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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September 4, 2008

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Cynthia Banks, Director 
Department of Community and Senior Services

SUBJECT: **JUNE 24, 2008 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: YOUTH JOBS PROGRAM - STATUS REPORT**

On June 24, 2008, your Board approved the allocation of funds for the Youth Jobs program and instructed this department to provide a status report in 45 days, also addressing: 1) ways to increase participation by foster youth in the Youth Jobs Program; and 2) the use of County funds for this program.

CSS convened a collaborative of County departments and other stakeholder agencies, known as the Youth Jobs Cross-Cluster Collaborative (YJCCC), to explore ways to enhance services and employment for youth. The YJCCC includes the Human Relations Commission; the Chief Executive Office; the Departments of Community and Senior Services (CSS), Children and Family Services, Probation, Public Social Services, Human Resources; and the State Employment Development Department.

The Collaborative's charge is to identify initiatives and potentially share resources across County departments which promote services for CalWORKs, Probation, and foster care youth. The Collaborative met weekly from March through May 2008 and continues to meet monthly to ensure the initiatives agreed to by the Collaborative show progress and produce outcomes. The following is a status on the initiatives underway:

Youth Jobs Program

With \$5.4 million in County funds authorized by your Board, Youth Jobs providers began service delivery July 1, 2008 to enrolled youth who will receive an average 140 hours of work experience mainly in the summer months with public, profit, and non-profit agencies throughout Los Angeles County. CSS anticipates over 3,000 youth will receive services by the end of FY 08-09. To date, 841 youth have been enrolled; of these, 837 (99%) have already obtained jobs. Of the 837 job placements, 444 are males and 397 are females. The ages of the youth placed ranges between 14 and 21, with 770 (92%) between the ages of 14 and 18.

Florence/ Firestone Demonstration Project

The Florence/Firestone Demonstration Project, funded by Youth Jobs and WIA Youth Program, will provide 50 youth from this unincorporated area with work experience, career exploration, personal development, and job opportunities with a focus on potential career ladders. Implementation is targeted for October 2008.

CSS and its two contractors, Arbor East Los Angeles WorkSource Center and Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. (AYE-CCLA), have agreed to use the CSS Florence Firestone Community Center to operate the Florence Firestone Pilot Project at its inception and have begun to select the fifty (50) participants for the pilot, including foster care youth.

Additionally, AYE-CCLA and Arbor contacted the Florence/Firestone Chamber of Commerce, community-based organizations and educational agencies and sought their support with marketing the demonstration project to area youth and recruiting the required 50 participants.

DHR County Student Worker Positions

DHR set aside 441 positions at County departments for the Student Worker program through a separate Motion by the Board. The Florence Firestone Demonstration youth participants, as well as foster care youth, will have the opportunity to apply for some of these DHR County Student Worker positions throughout Program Year 2008-09.

CSS and DHR met with area contractors to discuss employer specific job fairs to recruit youth into the available Student Worker positions. Six WIA contractors, including Arbor East Los Angeles WorkSource Center, Chicana East Los Angeles WorkSource Center, Los Angeles Urban League, South Los Angeles WorkSource Center, Antelope Valley WorkSource Center, and Palmdale South Valley WorkSource Center have begun scheduling dates and times for conducting the job fair events.

CSS will continue to work with the YJCCC to enhance the service umbrella to the youth of Los Angeles County and its unincorporated areas, reporting on the program's mid-year outcomes to your Board in January 2009.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

CDB:JM

MM:fp

c: Chief Executive Officer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors



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Director

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GLORIA MOLINA
MARK RIDLEY THOMAS
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
DON KNABE
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

February 26, 2009

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Cynthia Banks, Director 
Department of Community and Senior Services

SUBJECT: JUNE 24, 2008, AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: YOUTH JOBS PROGRAM - STATUS REPORT

On June 24, 2008, your Board approved the allocation of funds for the Youth Jobs Program and instructed this department to provide a status report in 45 days which was submitted to your office on September 4, 2008. Consequently, this department notified your Board that a report on the program's mid-year outcomes would be submitted in January 2009. This report addresses the following concerns: 1) ways to increase participation by foster youth in the Youth Jobs Program; and 2) the use of County funds for this program.

As related to your Board during our last report, CSS convened a collaborative of County departments and other stakeholder agencies, known as the Youth Jobs Cross –Cluster Collaborative (YJCCC), to explore ways to enhance services and employment for youth. The YJCCC includes the Human Relations Commission, the Chief Executive Office, the Department of Community and Senior Services (CSS), Children and Family Services, Probation, Public Social Services, Human Resources, County Office of Education, and the State Employment Development Department.

The Collaborative's charge is to identify initiatives and potentially share resources across County departments which promote services for CalWORKs, Probation, and foster care youth. The Collaborative meets on a monthly basis to ensure the initiatives agreed to by the Collaborative show progress and produce the intended outcomes. Following is a status on the initiatives underway:

Youth Jobs Program

With \$5.4 million in County funds authorized by your Board, Youth Jobs providers began service delivery July 1, 2008 and continue to provide work experience services to our youth via public, profit, and non-profit agencies in Los Angeles County. In our September 4th report, we anticipated serving over 3,000 youths. To date, 3,332 youths have received work experience services, 1,001 of which are CalWORKs recipients. Of the 3,332 youth enrolled, 242 are foster youth and 122 are in probation.

Florence/Firestone Demonstration Project

The Florence/ Firestone Demonstration Project, funded by Youth Jobs and WIA Youth Program, aims to provide 50 youth from this unincorporated area with work experience, career exploration, personal development, and job opportunities with a focus on potential career ladders. The project has been implemented.

CSS and its two contractors, Arbor East Los Angeles Worksource Center and Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. (AYE-CCLA), have enrolled 23 participants for the pilot, including foster care youth. The remaining slots will be filled by June 30, 2009.

DHR County Student Worker Positions

DHR set aside 441 positions at County departments for the Student Worker program through a separate Motion by the Board. Between July and December 2008, 345 individuals have been hired out of the allocated 441 positions. Also, DHR has utilized \$919, 071 of the \$1,876,000 allocated.

CSS will continue to work with the YJCCC to enhance the service umbrella to the youth of Los Angeles County and its unincorporated areas.

CDB:JM

MM:fp

c: Chief Executive Officer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors